

From: Arthur Boone <arboone3@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 8:42 PM
To: Antoinette Stein
Cc: Esquivel, Jeffery@CalRecycle
Subject: Re: follow up to share contact info Jeffery Esquivel calrecycle and who is Jacques Franco
--re: Davis Street OMRF and Compost Facilities

Mr. Esquivel.

In the matter of building a compost yard, any type of compost yard, in the space such as Davis Street Transfer Station operates is fraught with possible negative environmental effects.

From 2010 to 2013, I was the Conservation Chair of the SF Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club and paid especial attention to the questions of air quality in West Oakland, a matter much attacked if not remediated by a number of agreements between the Port of Oakland and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (cold ironing ships coming into port, stringent rules for trucks coming into the truck terminal, ending of diesel engines for shoreside power, etc.).

In the course of filling in for a fellow Sierra Club member who had taken on involvement in the West Oakland Port-related matter, I tracked what was also discovered about air quality in the rest of Oakland. Citizens for a Better Environment identified in 2007 that the 880 corridor, which flows through downtown and East Oakland into San Leandro, was itself the center of major areas of nonattainment of desired air quality. [Google "cbe-880-pollution" for an eyeful]. I have managed factories in East Oakland less than 100 yards from the I-880 freeway and was stunned by the particulate matter that settled on anything we left out overnight.

As I have turned my attention now to San Leandro, I see that the effects of the 880 corridor extends beyond Oakland well into San Leandro. If you look at the air quality map of San Leandro (Dr. Stein can provide you with a copy; it was attached to our complaint), you see that all of the city above and below the I-880 corridor suffers from well below standard air quality.

While these datapoints are not directly relevant to the DSTS permit application, they illuminate an area of City of San Leandro life that seems to suffer from major inattention by the local powers that be. Air quality will never be improved in the segment of the NW part of the City where DSTS exists unless affirmative actions are undertaken to reduce existing pollutant levels and to avoid any new construction that will exacerbate what is already a bad situation.

Waste Management takes the glib position that negative air pressure and biofilters will solve or end any pollutants escaping to the surrounding atmosphere. If the state is to pursue its goal of protecting its people and the environment, there needs to be lot more facts than opinions in play in this matter.

I presume you understand that CARB's interest in ending all deposition of all organic materials in landfills in the next few years is in fact shaking this state's solid waste industry to its core. In the 1990s curbside programs were rolled out through much of the state and, by 2006, the state declared we had reached the 50% waste reduction goal. Several years later the legislature decided that 50% was not enough and voted for 75% waste reduction but with many eviscerating caveats.

The CARB understanding that organics have no business in landfills is an entirely new initiative with extensive repercussions. We need to see that some composting programs are better than others just like we have learned that some collection containers are better than others. Both fancy machines that supposedly turn waste into resources and compost yards that turn worked-over wastes into marketable soil amendments are largely untried hypotheses in California. It would be a shame if the state failed to utilize the intelligence and experience available to it in evaluating proposals before local governments and citizens will be saddled with the costs of these problematic programs.